QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES - 20 OCTOBER 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE14/407) PROGRAMME – 2.1: and 2.2: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

- (a) How many LEE interpreters who have applied for an XB class visa have been granted protection in Australia?
- (b) How many were denied a place in Australia's humanitarian program?
- (c) How many more LEE interpreter applications still need to be processed?

Answer:

- (a) Around 600 Afghan locally engaged employees (LEE) and their family members, have been granted Class XB visas and resettled in safety in Australia under this visa policy.
- (b) A very small number of applications from LEE have been refused visas under this policy.
- (c) To protect the security and privacy of the Afghan LEE, their families and our personnel in Afghanistan, the department does not release details of the number of applications received.